

Maybe some of the issues will be ironed out at the National in Dorningtown. Some rafters might also be raised. I've been advised by a good friend to 'be cool' at the National. What I want to know is — who will call the meeting to order and preside over it? I hope that the former FTA president doesn't attempt to — I'll object to it. By the way, I'll be there on the Saturday and have hopes that the meeting will be held on the same date.

As for myself and some others — we have no intention of abandoning the F.T.A. It has been in existence since 1938 and as with other clubs, it has had its ups and downs. Of course, certain changes will have to be made. One of them is the bulletin and its contents, the FTA membership does deserve an informative and regular bulletin one that is more than one page in length. We used to receive bulletins every month. The bulletin, an informative and interesting bulletin, is a source of inspiration to those fanciers, much like yourself, that are in remote areas and have no direct contact with other tippler fanciers other than by mail. The members, I believe, are looking for more information.

By the way, I have re-considered and will run for the position of FTA Secretary.

It's a shame that we are experiencing all of this pickering, politicking, petty jealousy amongst the tippler fancy. I instead of being united, we are now divided. As you know, the tippler fancy doesn't have the numbers as do the Roller fancy or the Racing Homer fancy. Look at the number of Roller

clubs there are and the Racing Homer clubs are numerous. There are about 150 tippler members in the FTA, 30 or so in the American Tippler Union, 20 or so in Toronto some of which are FTA members. Most of the FTA members are spread out all over the country — how can you please everyone? The weather is so different, the time factor plus other things come into play.

My good friend Jack Prescott of Sheffield, England, said many times that the game of flying tipplers was never meant to be so wide spread. It was meant to be a local thing whereby all flew on the same day and under the same weather conditions, all releasing their kits at the same time.

Where do we go from here?

There are some that will hold dual membership both F.T.A. and F.T.S. I've been told that they are doing this to 'stay informed'. I guess that there is nothing wrong with that — what do you think?

I'm hoping that you'll stay with the FTA as I and others are doing.

I think that I'll sign off here so take care and try and come to the Grand National — it should be interesting!

Sincerely,

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